

District 4 GSR Meeting: April 19, 2016

Present: Rob W., GSR, Northampton Saturday Night Beginner's Group and secretary; Steve DCM; Ben, co-DCM; See GSR Reports below for others present

Visitors: Sue from Area; See below

Steve introduced the reading. Chapter 7 Service Manual Page S-54 THE GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

- Jade was wondering who makes chips and medallions. Intergroup sells them. They are produced by an independent company. Intergroup can do it because it's not an official part of AA structure.
- It was also asked who sits on committees. Those are assigned.
- Sue added that Mark has the notes from last year's roundup as the secretary.
- It was also pointed out having more than one position does not give you more than one vote.
- Ben talked about how the reading highlights the importance of representation. Sue added that this is more so when we see that AA members have different ideas for how AA should be in different areas, regions, and countries. Ideas trickle up and down from level to level.

GSR Reports

- **Rob- NoHo beginners- Nothing new to report**
- **Alex-Tuesday Amherst Step Study—Uneventful business meeting. Killed the idea of incoming and outgoing commitments.**
- **Sarah-Monday Conway's Speaker discussion—Nothing new happening. Voted not to change the time of the meeting. Also considering starting a second meeting before the meeting.**
- **Ben—Amherst 6:30 Primary Purpose—A lot of young people are attending the business meetings. Old timers at that meeting suggested if you can't afford to give money to every meeting, perhaps give money to your home group first. Old-Timers are paying for coffee and snacks out of pocket because group isn't bringing in enough money. They are doing outgoing commitments now. And also incoming commitments.**
- **Jim – Sunday 12 step Amherst – just had 37th anniversary on April 4. Business group's attendance low at business meetings.**
- **Jade – Sunderland Security, 7 – 8, nothing much to report. Possible format change to be voted on at next business meeting on whether Lord's Prayer will be removed**
- **Chris—Sunday Night Life – nothing much to report. Big meeting, big group.**
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Ben delivered co-DCM report.

- A new alternate delegate was elected at the spring assembly, Mike S. from Springfield/Holyoke area was elected by the 3rd legacy voting. Congrats Mike!
- Thanks to all GSR's who were able to attend the Spring Assembly this year! Hopeful it was fun and informative to all in attendance, it was great to see District 4 represented so well!
- Grapevine Committee is asking all GSR's to encourage their groups to purchase GV subscription. Groups can raffle the monthly issue off or have it available to the group.
- CPC is opening the roundup this year with a CPC presentation. They are asking AA members to invite anyone in the professional community to attend. The presentation is at 7PM at the roundup. Any professional can attend, and does not need to pay, nor needs to pre-register.
- Our district is chairing a meeting at the round-up.
- Roundup Committee has completed the program for this year's roundup and it will be posted on the area website. It will be available in Spanish and English. April 20th is the registration cutoff so get to it! The roundup is **May 20th – 22nd** at LaQuinta Suites 100 Congress St. Springfield
- Website Committee is increasing committee and district minutes on the site
- Intergroup has revised the online the online meeting list and made it to a PDF file so it is easier to navigate
- An Ad-Hoc committee has formed and is meeting to discuss the area inventory they meet the first Thursday of the month right before the What a Concept Meeting in Holyoke at 474 Pleasant Street. Committee is formed, but new members are welcome to attend if they are committed to attending regularly afterwards. Minutes should appear on the website.
- District 6 is hosting a workshop on June 25th. Details to come
- District 5 is May 2. Information is online on the Area website.
- Alex brought up a suggestion for giving big books to retirement homes. Steve/Ben will bring this to the Accessibility committee.

Old Business: None

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New Business: Form a subcommittee to nail down workshop details

- Mark will be returning from GSO conference with agenda items/topics at roundups and the we can choose from those.

- Subcommittee volunteers: Alex, Ben, Jade (tentative, depending on how many others join next month), others can join the committee who were not at this meeting. Please attend next month. We hope to have 3 – 4 members on the committee.
- Subcommittee can begin discussing where to have the workshop and start contacting and setting dates. Maybe we can shoot for August or sooner because after, the area is slammed with AA events. Grapevine should be our primary target. All voted unanimously for the Grapevine.
- Jade challenged all at this meeting to bring one newcomer (or someone inexperienced with general service) to the workshop. This could apply to someone from a business/home group that does not have a GSR.
- Timeline
 - August or possibly July (2nd week in August?), maybe September – Tentative date; we need to mine the website to see what other dates are being used by others, and check in with the Grapevine on their availability, and table voting on the date until next month. Steve is going to check with Grapevine, Ben will be checking the online calendar.

Sue gave the Area Committee report. –

- Roundup,
- Calendars were provided to us (printed out from website)
- April 20 is traditions meeting. District 5 is chairing. District 4 will be asked to chair in the near future.
- 31st may mass state convention planning meeting. Carpooling is available. Looking for members to participate.
- Check out the website.
- E-mail sue with any questions.

Invited committee report-

- Alex – western mass young people in aa –Movie night is changing to 27th of May at Intergroup. 6PM. This was previously to be held on April 22, but there was a conflict with a sober dance in the same location. Committee is still looking for more members to fill positions.
- Ben- Mass State Convention of Young People—There are many upcoming events, such as outreach. There is a Facebook group, e-mail chain, and other means to contact. MSCYPAA 2016 is August 5 – 7, 2016 at Sheraton in Springfield. \$15.
- The meeting closed at 8:37PM.